

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0146] FIG. 63 shows a lancing device 510 according to a fifth example embodiment, the device also capable of generating a sensory distraction but doing so in a different manner. The device 510 includes a housing 512, a drive mechanism including a drive member 520 that is driven by a drive spring 554, a lancet 542 with a tip 544 and a return spring 544, and a stimulator 581 with a tip 585 and a return spring 583. In addition, the device may include a cocking and trigger mechanism (not shown) such as those described herein, and may be provided as a multi-use or disposable lancing device. The lancet 542 and the stimulator 581 are arranged in a side-by-side arrangement, as depicted, so that their travel paths are parallel. The housing 512 defines a lancing opening 522 and a stimulating opening 523 in a side-by-side arrangement, as depicted, and the lancet tip 544 extends through the lancing opening and the stimulator tip 585 extends through the stimulating opening. The stimulator tip 585 may be sharp or blunt, smooth or coarse, single- or multi-pronged, hot or cold, wet or dry, a combination of thereof, or otherwise configured to cause a sensory distraction upon impacting the skin. The lancet 542 and the stimulator 581 are both activated by the single drive member 520. But the stimulator tip 585 contacts the skin just before or simultaneously with the lancet tip 544, causing the desired distraction and thereby reducing the pain perceived from the puncturing by the lancet tip.

[0147] The timing can be provided by various means including a “varied lengths” scheme. For example, the stimulator 581 may have a greater length than the lancet 542 and the drive member 520 may have a generally flat contact surface 521 or be otherwise configured for contacting a drive surface 587 of the stimulator and a drive surface 547 of the lancet and thereby driving the stimulator and the lancet substantially the same distance, as shown. The stimulator tip 585 is preferably nearer than the lancet tip 544 to the endcap 572 at activation, and the stimulator tip and the lancet tip 544 are preferably simultaneously activated by the drive member 520, but this is not necessary. Alternatively, the drive member may have an extension arm, stepped

portion, or other lengthened structure for contacting the stimulator before the lancet, regardless of the relative lengths of the stimulator and the lancet.